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HE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

10/047,507

PATENT APPLICATION

MARLIN STEPHEN HEILMAN et al.

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ATTACHING A CONDUIT TO THE

Filed October 23, 2001

HEART OR A BLOOD VESSEL

I haveby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT ciens seall in an exvelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231,

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

January 25, 2002

**Assistant Commissioner of Patents** 

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following references are submitted pursuant to the requirements of 35 C.F.R. § 1.97, in compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

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United States Patent No. 4,503,568 to Madras

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United States Patent No. 4,652,265 to McDougall

United States Patent No. 4,661,096 to Teeple

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United States Patent No. 5,078,735 to Mobin-Uddin

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United States Patent No. 5,275,622 to Lazarus et al.

United States Patent No. 5,300,015 to Runge

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United States Patent No. 5,755,687 to Donlon

United States Patent No. 5,911,702 to Romley et al.

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United States Patent No. 6,264,601 to Jassawalla et al.

United States Patent No. 6,270,513 to Tsugita et al.

Thoughts and Progress, Technique for Apex Cannulation without Extracorporeal Circulation, <u>Artif Organs</u>, Vol. 11, No. 3, 1987, pages 269-271

The submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the foregoing references are prior art. The Examiner is respectfully urged to make an independent search and evaluation of all art.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of each reference and a completed PTO/SB/08A

Respectfully submitted,

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